

ERIN MCKENNEY

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Pronouns: She/her/hers

EDUCATION

Clinical Psychology Doctoral Student Sept 2020 - present

Rowan University

APA Accredited Program on Contingency

Emphasis on integrated healthcare and health psychology

GPA: 3.98

BA in Psychology and Anthropology & Sociology Aug 2016 - May 2020

Lafayette College

Graduated Summa Cum Laude with honors in psychology

Attended Spring 2019 in Copenhagen through the DIS study abroad program.

Cumulative GPA: 3.96

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Pre-Doctoral Extern, NeurAbilities July 2021 – present

Supervisor: Dr. Gregory Alberts

- Complete neuropsychological testing for the purpose of diagnosis and creating intervention recommendations for individuals ages 6 through adulthood.
- Responsibilities include conducting and scoring a variety of assessments, interpreting results, writing integrated reports and recommendations, and assisting in explaining results to clients and families.
- Provide cognitive behavioral therapy for adults with concerns such as depression, generalized anxiety, and difficulties adjusting to life stressors.
- Contributed to externship didactic lectures by presenting on considerations for administering and scoring neuropsychological assessments when working with transgender and nonbinary clients.

Pre-Doctoral Assessments Intern, Rowan University Sept 2020 – May 2021

Supervisor: Dr. Roberta Dihoff

- While enrolled in assessment course, completed clinical interviews and assessments for the purpose of creating accommodations recommendations for undergraduate students.
- Responsibilities included facilitating clinical interviews, interpreting results, writing reports and accommodation recommendations, and explaining results to clients.
- Standardized assessments given include Nelson-Denny, The Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale Fourth Edition (WAIS-IV), and Woodcock-Johnson IV Tests of Cognitive Abilities.

Undergraduate Practicum Student, Social Psychiatry Café Jan 2019 – May 2019
Copenhagen, Denmark

- Spent approximately four hours per week one-on-one or in small groups with café clients. Clients were primarily middle-aged and older adults, often with a diagnosis of schizophrenia and prior history of trauma.
- Facilitated social skills practice through group conversations and activities.
- Used evidence-based skills drawn from cognitive behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing, and humanistic psychology.
- Researched and presented on café's shared decision-making and patient leadership.

Volunteer, Easton Hospital Behavioral Health Unit May 2018 – Sept 2018

- Interacted one-on-one with patients, assisted with admittance and discharge, and created patient binders.
- Patients were all over the age of 18 and had a variety of diagnoses. Many were experiencing psychosis, had recently engaged in self-directed violence, and/or had co-occurring substance use disorders.

Volunteer/Preminger Gerontology Scholar March 2018 – Sept 2018
Gracedale Nursing Home

- Facilitated activities with residents and evaluated the success of high school volunteer program. Proposed an oral history program and created its procedure.
- Worked one-on-one regularly with a small group of residents, primarily with major neurocognitive disorders.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Student and Research Fellow, Rowan University Sept 2020 - present
Social, Emotional, and Affective Health Lab (SEAHL)

Advisor: Dr. Katherine Gotham

- The Social, Emotional, and Affective Health Lab seeks to collaborate with the autistic community to help improve emotional health in neurodivergent populations. Current research focuses on the predictors and measurement of depression and anxiety in autistic adolescents and adults.
- Master's thesis explores predictors of depression and anxiety across autistic and non-autistic students' first semester of college.

Psychology Honors Thesis, Lafayette College Aug 2019 – May 2020
Advisor: Dr. Jennifer Talarico

- Researched how timing and consistency of access to Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices affects non-speaking children's mental health and independence outcomes in adulthood.
- Created research question, designed screen-reader accessible surveys, recruited participants, analyzed data, and defended thesis proposal.

EXCEL Scholar Research Assistant, Lafayette College
Kids Lab

Aug 2018 - May 2020

Advisor: Dr. Lauren Myers

- Studied how toddlers respond to on-screen partners and how parents use strategies to engage children in video chat.
- Designed studies, recruited participants, created surveys, ran trials, and analyzed data. Worked extensively with families in the Lehigh Valley.

PUBLICATIONS

Manuscripts

Williams, Z. J., **McKenney, E. E.**, & Gotham, K. O. (2021). Investigating the structure of trait rumination in autistic adults: A network analysis. *Autism*, 25(7), 2048–2063. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13623613211012855>

Gotham, K., Williams, Z., Brunwasser, S., **McKenney, E.E.** (in prep). Phenomenology and measurement of repetitive thinking in adults with autism.

Brunwasser, S., **McKenney, E.E.**, Williams, Z., & Gotham, K. (in prep). Association between repetitive thinking and emotional health states in a large autistic adult sample.

Invited Talks

Dwyer, P., **McKenney, E.**, Kofner, B., Shevchuk-Hill, S., & Gillespie-Lynch, K. (2022, February 15). *How can we use an understanding of the neurodiversity movement to develop socially valid supports for autistic people?* Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health.

Stramondo, J., Andler, M. & **McKenney, E.** (2021, February). *Vulnerability to COVID-19 and the Moral Questions of Institutional Long-term Care*. Invited as virtual co-moderator by Lafayette College.

Oral Presentations

McKenney, E.E., Richards, J.K., Day, T., Kofner, B., McDonald, R., Gillespie-Lynch, K., Kang, E., Lerner, M., & Gotham, K. (2022, May) Modeling Social Predictors of Depressive Symptoms Across the First Semester in Autistic and Non-autistic College Students. In J. Schwartzman (Chair), *Advances in Understanding Depression and Suicide in Autism*. Symposium submitted to be presented during the 21st annual International Society for Autism Research Conference, Austin, TX.

McKenney, E.E., Richards, J.K., Day, T., Kofner, B., McDonald, R., Gillespie-Lynch, K., Kang, E., Lerner, M., & Gotham, K. (2021, November) Repetitive Thinking as a Predictor of Depression Across Autistic and Non-autistic Students'

First Semester of College. In K. Gotham (Chair), *The Role of Repetitive Thinking in Depression within the Autistic Community*. Symposium presented during the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies' 55th Annual Convention.

Myers, L. J. & **McKenney, E. E.** (2021, April). *Run away or play? Parents need evidence-based recommendations to create playful and engaging video chat interactions with their children*. In M. Jing (Chair,) Young Children and Digital "Symbols:" A Socio-contextual Lens. Presented by Myers in symposium at the 2021 biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, virtual conference.

McKenney, E. & McDermut, M. (2020, February) *Guest Involvement in Social Psychiatric Cafes' Leadership*. Poster presented at the Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges (LVAIC) Global Student Conference.

McKenney, E. (2019, August) *How does parental co-viewing support children during video chat?* Presentation given during college-wide summer talks series.

Posters

McKenney, E. E. & Talarico, J. M. (2021, July) *Alternative Communication Methods and Wellbeing: Childhood Access to Communication's Long-term Effects on Adult Wellbeing*. Poster was presented virtually at the 15th Congress of the International Association for the Study of Child Language, originally scheduled for July 2020 and delayed due to COVID-19.

McKenney, E. E. & Gotham, K.O. (2021, May) *Modeling Prospective Predictors of Mental Health Symptoms across the First Semester of College*. Poster was presented virtually at the 20th annual International Society for Autism Research conference.

McKenney, E. E. & Gotham, K.O. (2021, April) *Modeling Prospective Predictors of Mental Health Symptoms across the First Semester of College*. Poster was presented virtually at the Rowan University Annual Psychology Research Conference.

McKenney, E. E. & Talarico, J. M. (2020, March) *Augmentative and Alternative Communication Methods and Wellbeing: How Childhood Access to Communication Affects Adult Health*. Poster was accepted to be presented at the Meeting on Language in Autism, Durham, NC. (Conference cancelled due to COVID-19.)

McKenney, E. E. & Myers, L. J. (2019, October) *Run away or play with Grandma? How do parents support children's video chat experiences with relatives?* Poster and short talk presented at the biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.

Myers, L. J., Kirkorian, H. L., & **McKenney, E. E.** (2019, October). *Are you talking to ME?: An exploratory study of toddlers' responsiveness to prompts from a video*

chat partner. Poster and short talk presented at the biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.

McDermut*, M. & **McKenney, E.*** (2019, May) *Guest Involvement at Mamma Mia*. Poster presented at program-wide poster session open to the public, Copenhagen, Denmark.

* *represents equal contributions between authors*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Child and Adolescent Development Jan 2022- May 2022
Rowan University Department of Psychology, Adjunct Instructor
Asynchronous, online

Essentials of Psychology Sept 2021- Dec 2021
Rowan University Department of Psychology, Adjunct Instructor
Asynchronous, online

Guest Lecturer

Provided individual live lectures for the following classes:

Introduction to Psychology, North Carolina State University	Summer 2022
Psychology as a Profession, Rowan University	November 2021

SKILLS

Experienced with:

- SPSS and SPSS Syntax
- Coding behavioral video data through Datavyu, editing Datavyu scripts, and creating instructional lab manuals for its use
- Qualtrics survey creation, survey flow and branching, distribution, recruitment through panels, and email triggers
- Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) survey creation and distribution
- Excel, PowerPoint, Word

HONORS AND AWARDS

2021 International Society for Autism Research Student and Trainee Award

2020 Barge Oratorical Prize: Oral Defense of Honors Thesis

2020 Herbert W. Rogers Psychology Prize

Psi Chi National Honor Society

2016-2020 Marquis Scholar, Charles A. Dana Foundation Scholar

2016 BBC 100 Women Honoree, recognized for creation of STEM Program

2016 Gold Award Girl Scout and regional Young Women of Distinction Honoree

SELECTED ADDITIONAL TRAINING

DBT of South Jersey: DBT Phone Coaching 101

January 2021

CenterStat: Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling
 National Register Associate Certificate Program: Clinical Suicidology

May 2021
 October 2020

SELECTED MENTORSHIP AND SERVICE

Doctoral Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee member December 2020 - present
 Rowan University
 Attend regular meetings with faculty and graduate students to advocate for student concerns and plan events relevant to the committee's mission.

Student Diversity Committee member Sept 2020 - present
 Rowan University
 Assist in the creation of this graduate student committee and planning events relevant to its mission.

"Skype a Scientist" volunteer May 2020 - present
 Video chat with K-12 classrooms, nonprofits, and families to engage in science communication and answer questions about psychology.

Neurodiversity Committee Score Card Subcommittee member Nov 2020 – May 2021
 Rowan University
 Assisted in creating surveys and analyzing data to evaluate the success of neurodiversity initiatives at Rowan University and affiliated institutions. Presented results with subcommittee colleagues to the larger Neurodiversity Committee.

Outside resource for Engineering Studies project Aug 2020 – Nov 2020
 Lafayette College
 Assisted undergraduate students in their project on integrating Disability Studies and Engineering.

"Hearing Happiness" planning committee member Nov 2020
 Lafayette College
 Initiated and assisted in planning one of the first presentations at Lafayette College focused on disability. Worked with faculty to select the presenter (Dr. Jaipreet Viridi), publicize, and ensure accessibility of the talk.